



*City of Arts & Innovation*

## News Release

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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### **RIVERSIDE INCREASES ACCESS TO CITY HALL WITH NEW SOFTWARE**

**RIVERSIDE, CA –** Riverside launches a new web feature that provides the public with greater access to City Hall by allowing residents to share views on City Council agenda items.

The *eComment* tool was recently implemented by the City Clerk's office and provides an easy to use electronic tool for residents to express their views on specific agenda items at City Council meetings.

Mayor Loveridge praised the *eComment* program saying, "Riverside appreciates there are many options available for communication and is delighted to offer this new tool for our residents to aid in our ongoing effort to increase transparency." He also said, "...it is important for our community to have the opportunity to comment on decisions that affect their neighborhoods and City services".

The City will continue to accept traditional communication via letters, phone calls, and emails. Councilmembers Andy Melendrez, Rusty Bailey, and Steve Adams serving on the Governmental Affairs Committee reviewed eComment and recommended the tool that offers broader access and communication with elected officials.

Councilmember Melendrez remarked, "*eComment* offers residents an easy way to participate in local decisions from the comfort of their home at their own convenience."

To access *eComment*, visit the City's website at [www.riversideca.gov](http://www.riversideca.gov). In the Mayor and City Council box click on the "City Council Agenda" link and click "eComment" to access the feature. The comment window begins on Friday prior to each City Council meeting. Contact the City Clerk's Office at 951-826-5557 for further information.

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